(iii) District Collectors have been made responsible for the proper organization of the Gram Sabha wherever required under the Act.

(iv) The Gram Sabha and Ward Sabha are to identify and select the projects to be taken up in the Gram Panchayat. Gram Sabha will be held regularly to ensure social audit. All information relating to flow of funds, works, workers, muster rolls, measurement books, sanction orders, cash book and all other records and registers shall be placed in the Gram Sabha. There shall be video documentation of the proceedings of all Gram Sabhas.

Viability of SEZs in present economic scenario

*139. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done any study or assessed the impact of the recent global economic slowdown on the use and future of the numerous Special Economic Zones (SEZs) sanctioned in the country in the last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the international economic slowdown will have an impact on Indian exports;

(c) if so, whether Government will do a re-think on the utility of the SEZs in the near future;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the targets of new units have fallen behind in the SEZs; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to review the viability of SEZs in the present economic scenario?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. SEZs have made significant contribution to the exports from the country. Exports for 2007-08 from SEZs were around Rs. 66,638 crores and during April, 2008 to December, 2008 exports have been around Rs. 66,160 crores. It is expected that SEZs would generate exports of around Rs. 90,000 crores for the year 2008-09. SEZs have also brought in investments of around Rs. 1,01,906 crores so far. Therefore, there is no need to rethink on the utility of the SEZs in the near future.

(d) No specific targets have been set by Government for the SEZ units as these are in either private sector or joint sector.

(e) Does not arise in view of the above.

Habitations under PMGSY

†*140. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.